

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02085 241541Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 /084 W
-----250401Z 079212 /22

R 241450Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5389
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2085

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UR, IS, XF
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL ISRAELI REACTION TO BREZHNEV SPEECH

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 3804, (B) CAIRO 4896, (C) KUWAIT 1521

1. MFA DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS (RAVIV) HAS GIVEN US THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF THE INITIAL ISRAELI REACTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PORTION OF BREZHNEV'S MARCH 21 TRADE UNION CONGRESS SPEECH.

2. RAVIV SAID THE GOI SEES FOUR FACTORS WHICH EXPLAIN THE MOTIVATION BEHIND THIS AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OF SOVIET MIDDLE EAST POLICY. FIRST, ISRAELI OFFICIALS RECALL THAT IN MARCH 1975 AT A TIME OF TENSION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ISRAEL, THE SOVIET UNION DISCREETLY GOT IN TOUCH WITH THE GOI AND INDICATED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 02085 241541Z

IT WAS WILLING TO DISCUSS A RENEWAL OF SOVIET-ISRAELI DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE QUESTION HAS NOW ARISEN WHETHER A SIMILAR SIGNAL IS BEING SENT TO ISRAEL AT A TIME WHEN THE SOVIET UNION PERCEIVES SOME TENSION IN U.S./ISRAELI RELATIONS. SECOND, THE SOVIET UNION IS INDICATING ITS DESIRE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS AND IS

TAKING SERIOUSLY THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE SECOND HALF OF 1977 WILL SEE SOME MOVEMENT TOWARD NEGOTIATIONS. THIRD, THE SOVIET UNION REMAINS A FACTOR WHICH MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND BREZHNEV'S STATEMENT IS A REMINDER TO SADAT AND ASAD OF THAT POINT. FOURTH, THE TIMING OF THE BREZHNEV SPEECH IS RELATED TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT AND THE SOVIET UNION WISHES TO HAVE THIS STATEMENT OF ITS MIDDLE EAST POLICY ON THE TABLE AS A STARTING POINT FOR MIDDLE EAST DISCUSSIONS.

3. REGARDING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE BREZHNEV STATEMENT, THE GOI SEES NO BASIC CHANGE IN LONG-STANDING SOVIET PRINCIPLES REGARDING THE MIDDLE EAST. THOSE PRINCIPLES ARE: INSISTENCE ON TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, INSISTENCE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PALESTINIAN STATE, INSISTENCE ON ENDING THE STATE OF WAR BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS NEIGHBORS, AND INSISTENCE ON SOME KIND OF GUARANTEES FOR THE RESULTING PEACE SETTLEMENT. THEREFORE, THERE IS NO DEVIATION TO BE FOUND IN THIS MOST RECENT STATEMENT.

4. THAT BEING SAID, THERE ARE NEVERTHELESS SOME DIFFERENCES TO BE NOTED. FIRST, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE IN STYLE; THE MARCH 21 STATEMENT INCLUDES NO ATTACK OF ISRAEL AS A STATE. SECOND, THERE ARE REFERENCES AGAINST IMPOSED SOLUTIONS. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TEL AV 02085 241541Z

THE ISRAELIS NOTED THAT BREZHNEV SPOKE OF SOVIET "PRELIMINARY IDEAS" WHICH THE SOVIET UNION IS "NOT IMPOSING ON ANYONE" AND THAT THE SOVIETS ARE "PREPARED TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF OTHERS." THIRD, THE ISRAELIS NOTED THE LACK OF ANY MENTION IN THE SPEECH OF THE PLO; IN THIS CONNECTION THEY ALSO NOTED THE RECENT MEETING IN CAIRO BETWEEN THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR AND ARAFAT (SEE CAIRO 4793).

5. RAVIV CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT THE NEXT IMPORTANT STEP WILL BE TO TAKE NOTE OF THE ARAB REACTIONS TO THE STATEMENT AND ASKED THAT WE PROVIDE THE GOI WITH ANY ASSESSMENT WE MAY HAVE. IN THAT CONNECTION WE HAVE SHARED WITH HIM THE SUBSTANCE OF REFTELS. DUNNIGAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TELAV02085
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770102-0277
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770324/aaaaauvp.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b99961b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 3804, 77 CAIRO 4896, 77 KUWAIT 1521
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3003097
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL ISRAELI REACTION TO BREZHNEV SPEECH
TAGS: PFOR, UR, IS, XF, (BREZHNEV, LEONID I)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b99961b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009